

CARMEL



COUGARS

CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th Grade Cougar Update — 10.9.20

Mrs. Alison Fisch, Assistant Principal

Hello Cougar Families,

As the 1st quarter winds down, I wanted to remind you about assignments and grades. If you see a 0 for an assignment, your child has not turned it in, but it's not too late! Your child can submit late work up until October 12 for partial credit. If you see 2 dashes in the grade column, that indicates the teacher has entered the assignment name, but not the grade yet. It doesn't mean your child didn't do the work! If you have specific questions regarding an assignment, please contact your child's teacher directly.

Carmel's Virtual Curriculum Night bit.ly/2020VCN
Opening Message from Dr. Thompson: https://youtu.be/uLd_Qir0r9s

On October 8th, Carmel hosted its annual Curriculum Night virtually. Our PTSA began our Curriculum Night with a live presentation regarding the proposed 2020-2021 budget. Following the PTSA's announcements, Dr. Thompson gave a brief reflection on the first quarter of this school year and how Carmel is preparing for a shift into hybrid instruction under Plan B. All parents may view the virtual Curriculum Night by visiting bit.ly/2020VCN. You can walk through your child's schedule using this link and watch teacher videos. Teachers will elaborate on content covered during quarter 1 and what you and your child can expect in their class in the near future. They will also share an overview of the units of study that your child will be engaged with during the 2020-2021 school year.

We hope that you take time to watch these teacher created messages with your child to better understand curriculum delivery at Carmel Middle School! As always, we are so appreciative of our school community and the support we receive.

SEL Time

In addition to "Mindful Mondays," students and staff will also incorporate "Finish-Up Fridays" during SEL block going forward. This will be time allotted for students to have additional opportunities to finish any asynchronous work from the week and to ask their teachers questions. Caring Schools lessons will still be delivered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week during SEL time. Students in ACE PE and Learning Lab will still attend these classes each day.

Be sure to sign up for PTSA's **Cougar News**, which has important information on all things happening at Carmel. To sign up, [click here](#).

Important Dates

- October 12 - All 1st Quarter assignments are due
- October 16 - End of Quarter 1
- October 19 - Teacher Workday - No classes for students
- November 3 - Teacher Workday - No classes for students
- November TBD - Plan B Town Hall
- November 11 - Holiday - No School for staff or students
- November 23 - [Anticipated start date for Plan B](#)
- November 25 - 27 - Thanksgiving Break - No School for staff or students
- December 9 - Early Release Day
- December 21 - End of Quarter 2
- December 22 - Teacher Workday - No classes for students
- December 23 - January 4 - Winter Break - No School for staff or students
- January 4 - Teacher Workday - No School for students
- January 5 - Second Semester Begins

Curriculum Updates

Language Arts: Last week, Language Arts completed our Mid-Unit 2 Assessment consisting of demonstrating skills in researching and answering questions related to the text, *A Long Walk to Water*. As we move to the second part of Unit 2, we will be refining writing skills in preparation for crafting a compare / contrast essay. Utilizing the framework of the Painted Essay, students will begin by identify main points, gather and organize evidence to support these points, and explain how the evidence supports their points. Comparing and contrasting their novel *A Long Walk to Water* to the historical informational article "The 'Lost Girls' of Sudan" students will gather their evidence to analyze how the author of the novel uses or alters history. As we near the end of first quarter, be sure students are checking PowerSchool for missing assignments.

Math: Standard Math- Students are in the middle of *Unit 2: Introducing Proportional Relationships*. We will finish up the unit next week and have our Unit 2 End of Unit Assessment on Wednesday, October 21st. We will begin *Unit 3: Measuring Circles* on 10/22. Unit 3 and Unit 4 work booklets are available for pickup at the school. Contact your student's teacher for more information.

Honors Math-Students just finished their last formal for the quarter on Rational Numbers. Students will begin their next unit of transformations in which they will explore how figures move in a coordinate grid through translation, reflections, and rotations.

Math 1- Students took their Unit 2 Test this week and have started Chapter 4 where we begin to explore functions and linear functions. Our Chapter 4 Test is scheduled for Monday, October 26th.

Science: Hello families, we hope you all tuned into the virtual curriculum evening and learned more about our curriculum and approach to teaching during this remote learning experience. Additionally, you were provided with explicit contact information for each teacher should you have any questions or concerns. Knowing we are finalizing all assignments for the end of the first quarter on October 16, we are excited to move forward with developing a deeper understanding of extreme weather and issues regarding climate change. Students will examine the different types of contributing factors that make extreme weather extreme, while also understanding the scientific facts and misconceptions connected to the greenhouse effect, the ozone hole, and climate change. We encourage you to discuss these important issues with your child for clarity and support of their ability to make a valid and factual argument. By the next communication we should begin our new content in life science and microbiology. Thank you for your continued commitment to learning for all.

Social Studies: We have completed Unit 1, and we are now moving our way through Unit 2, "The Great Global Convergence." We have completed our 1st two lessons, The Renaissance & Reformation, and the students are now working on a historical investigation of "Why Martin Luther challenged the Catholic Church." We will begin our lessons next week covering the "Age of Exploration" and the "Columbian Exchange." Please check PowerSchool and make sure that your student is all caught up with their assignments. Quarter 1 ends this coming Friday. Thank you for all your support.

Counselor Connection

Carmel's *Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)* topics for the last two weeks have been:

1. "Understanding Emotions" - Students engaged in advisory activities and discussions about how to recognize emotions and how different emotions can affect their actions.
2. "Developing Empathy"- Students engaged in advisory activities and discussions in which they tapped into their natural ability to feel empathy by imagining how others might feel and what they could need to feel supported in given situations.

Next week, students will continue with the *Caring School Community* curriculum during *SEL* time by discussing "How to Respect Adults at School" and "Understanding Bullying."

To recognize [National Bullying Prevention Month](#), 7th grade students will be given the opportunity to participate in a "**New Friends**" initiative in which they can be a pen pal to a resident at [The Phoenix at Milton](#) outside of Atlanta, GA. Please email [Ms. Woody](#) by **Friday, October 16th** if your child is interested in this exciting opportunity. ☺

Please visit [Carmel's Student Services & Support Website](#) for lots of resources and information that can assist with the well-being of families and students.

We're looking forward to taking a visible stand against drugs by celebrating **Virtual Red Ribbon Week** October 26-30. During **Red Ribbon Week** students will learn to live safe and healthy lifestyles in an effort to stay drug free. We are super excited this year and pleased to announce that Carmel won 1st place in Positive Promotions'2019 **RED Ribbon Week** Contest...all thanks to our amazing Cougars. Additionally, our very own PTSA and Publix is joining us in taking a stand to achieve a drug-free community by sponsoring our **Art and Written Expression Contest**. With support like that, let's make this year's celebration extra special. We'd like to welcome you to a sneak peek preview of Carmel's Virtual Red Ribbon Week. Simply visit bit.ly/CarmelRRW on any device, and you will have exclusive access to the **Red Ribbon Week** Pre-Survey, Resources, Lesson and Special message from Pro Surfer Bethany Hamilton, Contest Items, and **The Red Ribbon Week** Hallway.

SPIRIT DAYS

MONDAY
OCT 26

Cougar Pride-Wear Carmel Attire

TUESDAY
OCT 27

Wear Sunglasses - Our Futures Are Too Bright For Drugs

WEDNESDAY
OCT 28

Furry Friends Day -Share a pic of you with with pet(s) or favorite stuffed animal.

THURSDAY
OCT 29

Wear your favorite Sports Jerseys -to Team Up Against Drugs

FRIDAY
OCT 30

College and Career Day - Drug Free I can Be Anything. Dress in your future Career Attire or College Apparel

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- Brixx Pizza at Foxcroft Family Fundraiser Night - Click on [BrixxBuxx Flyer 2018](#) for more info
 - **Canvas:** Parents can access Canvas! Click [here](#) to find directions on how to create a parent account.
 - The CMS English Language Learner (ELL) department is available to assist any family needing support. Click on the links below for more information.

English Learner Parent & Community Outreach Website

<https://sites.google.com/cms.k12.nc.us/el-parent-community-outreach/home>

K-12 English Learner Remote Learning Website

<https://sites.google.com/cms.k12.nc.us/remote-english-learner/home>

Thank You

Many thanks to parents, guardians, and other grown-ups in our students' lives for working diligently to facilitate the distance learning process for your child(ren) remotely in your home, in addition to your own work and other important responsibilities. Our home and school connection is strengthened through your efforts!

Next Cougar Update: October 23, 2020

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